

the foundation funds a scholarship program that provides assistance for area students from southwest Alabama to go to college, and also runs the MLK Avenue Redevelopment Corporation, which assists housing construction in lower income neighborhoods in and around Mobile.

In addition to these programs, the foundation also supports the Centre for the Living Arts, which was founded by Palmer and his lovely wife, Ann.

Palmer Bedsole was awarded the 2004 Outstanding Citizen Award of Mobile because of his creation and involvement with the Centre for the Living Arts. This center operates Space 301, an art gallery in the former Mobile Press-Register building, as well as the historic Saenger Theater. Palmer was a driving force behind the renovations of this Mobile landmark.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a dedicated community leader, a successful businessman, a respected farmer and true friend to many throughout Alabama and around the country.

At 6 feet 6 inches, Palmer Bedsole was not only a tall man, but he was big in heart and generous in spirit. Naturally, he will be missed by his family—his wife of 48 years, Ann Smith Bedsole; his children, Raine Bedsole, George Demmas, Mary Martin Riser and John Henry Martin; and his grandchildren—as well as the countless friends he leaves behind.

Our thoughts and prayers are with them all at this difficult time.

HONORING HARRISON WADSWORTH ON THE COMPLETION OF HIS INTERNSHIP

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 2006

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Harrison Wadsworth for his service this summer during his internship in our Nation's Capital. Harrison has been a tremendous help to my constituents in Tennessee's Sixth Congressional District.

As he finishes his internship, Harrison is preparing for his junior year at Johns Hopkins University, where he is majoring in political science. He is a member of Sigma Chi, and his dedication to his studies has earned him a spot on the Dean's List.

I know firsthand that Harrison comes from good stock. His father worked in my Washington, DC office for many years, and his sister has also interned here. Given the fine character of his family, I expected good things from Harrison and I was not disappointed.

Harrison's remarkable attitude and eagerness have been great assets during his time here. He has been very helpful in answering constituent concerns, guiding visitors from Middle Tennessee through the U.S. Capitol and assisting me and my staff with countless projects. His creative approach to problem solving has served him well.

I hope Harrison has enjoyed this learning experience as much as we have enjoyed having him in the office. I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MARK JAGET

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mark Jaget, who recently competed in the Gobi March, a 7-day, 150-mile footrace across China's Gobi Desert.

Mark is a 39-year-old chiropractor, who, with his brother David, owns three Spinal Rehabilitation Centers in Las Vegas, Nevada.

On June 3, 2006, after completing the six-stage, 7-day footrace across one of the harshest landscapes and climates on Earth, Mark crossed the finish line in a small, remote village in the Xinjiang Province of China. Mark finished the race an impressive 9th overall, with a time of 32 hours and 56 minutes.

This was Mark's first race, and he trained for 9 months in order to prepare for his amazing performance in this self-sustaining test, where the competitors have to carry their own food and supplies. Although participants were provided with a tent, water, and dehydrated meals, this served as little consolation in the extreme heat and rugged terrain.

Mark's motivation to finish the race came by focusing on thoughts of his wife, Clare, and their children, Sebastian, who is 7, and Tristan, who is 5, with whom he had imaginary conversations during the contest to keep his spirits high.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Mark Jaget on the floor of the House. I commend him for his overwhelming determination and appreciate his representation of our country and the State of Nevada in the Gobi March.

COMMENDING LIEUTENANT COLONEL SAMUEL I. PARKER, RECIPIENT OF THE MEDAL OF HONOR, ON HIS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO OUR NATION THROUGH HIS VALIANT HEROISM DURING THE FIRST WORLD WAR

HON. ROBIN HAYES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 2006

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the outstanding service of Lieutenant Colonel Samuel I. Parker of North Carolina's 8th district. Lieutenant Colonel Parker was one of only two soldiers from North Carolina to receive the Medal of Honor for his "valiant heroism" during the First World War.

Born on October 17, 1891 in Monroe, North Carolina, Samuel Parker entered the United States Army at a young age. When the United States entered World War I, Samuel Parker, like so many of his generation, chose to put his own interests aside and lay his life on the line to serve his country.

As his citation dutifully notes, on July 18, 1918, then-Second Lieutenant Parker found himself near Soissons, France. During the attack on Soissons, two infantry battalions were merged and established a frontline position. In so doing, a gap was left between the right flank of the French 153D Division and the left flank of the 28th Infantry, exposing the left

flank to enemy machine-gunfire in a rock quarry on high ground. Second Lieutenant Parker ordered his depleted platoon to follow him in an attack upon the strong point. Meeting a disorganized group of French Colonials, he persuaded them to join his platoon. They followed him through enemy fire to the crest of the hill, and rushing forward, took the quarry, capturing six machineguns and 40 prisoners. The next day when the assault continued, Second Lieutenant Parker was in command of the merged battalions. Although wounded in the foot, he refused to evacuate and continued to lead his command until the objective was reached. Seeing that the assault battalion was subjected to heavy enfilade fire due to a gap between it and the French on its left, he led his battalion through heavy fire and closed the gap, remaining in command until the newly established lines were thoroughly consolidated. In supervising this, Lieutenant Parker had to crawl on his hands and knees on account of his painful wound.

As the British statesman and philosopher Edmund Burke once said, "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing." That day good men like Lieutenant Parker did something, and evil did not triumph, but rather our freedom was ensured.

Unlike many of his comrades, Second Lieutenant Parker survived to receive his Medal of Honor and the Distinguished Service Cross and went on to achieve the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He passed away on December 1, 1975 at the age of 84. It is our duty to remember the service and sacrifice of Lieutenant Colonel Samuel L. Parker and that of all our veterans.

Our veterans are the heroes who helped define our American heritage, and are living proof that freedom is never free. The memory of those we lost and the sacrifice of those who lived to tell the tale must be held in high esteem by Congress and a nation that extends our veterans its utmost respect and gratitude. As we approach the fourth of July, the anniversary of our independence, we must never forget the service of our veterans and pay tribute to those who have gone before us. Now more than ever, we must come together as a nation to unite and rally around those who continue to fight for our freedom.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BRIAN CHRISTENSEN

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 2006

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Mr. Brian Christensen of Littleton, CO, on his victory in the NCAA Archery Recurve finals.

Mr. Christensen is a one-man team from Colorado State University, he is self-coached and his achievements are noteworthy. He has further ambitions to compete in the 2008 Summer Olympics. He has also been named Colorado Archer of the Year. Previously he has won the World Archery Festival in 2002 and 2003. Archery requires intense concentration and therefore he has used his discipline in the academic realm as well; currently he is using this in his goal of graduating with a degree in Sports Medicine.